

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 14-56 are pending in this application.

Restriction Requirements

The Examiner has requested the Applicant elect a single species to be restricted if no generic claims are held allowable. Applicant has been requested to elect from the species of the claimed invention as follows:

- A. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 2.
- B. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 6
- C. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 9
- D. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 10
- E. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 11.
- F. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 12
- G. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 13.
- H. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 21.
- I. The mirror assembly depicted by Fig. 25.

If a generic claim is not allowed on the merits, Applicants elects the species E. corresponding to figure 11. At this time, claims 14, 15, 17, 18-21, 23-28, 30-34, 44-47 read on the species corresponding to figure 11.

Additionally, the Examiner has requested that Applicant elect a single sub-species to be restricted if no generic claims are held allowable. Applicant has been requested to elect from the sub-species of the claimed invention as follows:

- 1. The light pipe arrangement depicted by Fig. 16;

2. The light pipe arrangement depicted by Fig. 17; and
3. The light pipe arrangement depicted by Fig. 18.

If a generic claim is not allowed on the merits Applicant elects the sub-species number 3, corresponding to Fig. 18. At this time claims 14, 15, 17, 18-21, 38-43, 48-51 read on the species corresponding to Fig. 18.

The Examiner has indicated that several claims are generic. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14, 15, 17, 18-21 are generic to all of the species disclosed above. Applicant wishes to note that with respect to Fig. 2 the indicator light assembly cannot readily be seen. However, the specification states "Figs. 18-20 depict cross-sectional views of a mirror assembly 190 utilizing in combination the LED and the light pipe concepts described above with respect to Figs. 1-17 to provide an indicator function, particularly a side area for function by enabling light to traverse toward an outboard end of the housing." Specification pp. 18-19, lines 21-3. Additionally, with respect to Fig. 18 the specification further notes that "[i]t should be noted from the outset, that mirror assembly 190 may be configured as any of the mirror assemblies described above with respect to Figs. 1-17." Specification pp. 19, lines 9-11. Thus the specification clarifies that the indicator light assembly shown in Fig. 18 is incorporated in species A, shown in Fig. 2. Therefore, claims 14, 15, 17, 18-21 are generic to all species listed in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests prosecution on the merits.

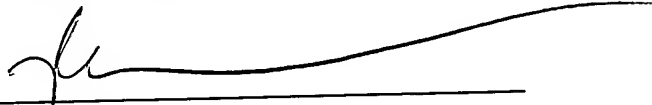
CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (248) 364-4300 if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 2, 2004

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Dated:

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Please note that the name of our firm has changed to "Warn, Hoffmann, Miller & LaLone, P.C." although our address, telephone number and facsimile numbers remain the same. Please update your records accordingly.